



# Acquisition Reform



## \*\*\*\* Update \*\*\*\*

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### ACQUISITION REFORM UPDATE & YOU

You, the worker on the acquisition "deckplates", are the sole customer for the "Update". Quality is defined by the customer. Talk to us. Help us build you a tool that lets you get the acquisition and standards reform job done. What areas in acquisition and standards reform do you want to know about? Questions, article suggestions and other comments are welcome here. Call or visit Bill McAninch at (703)602-2390, CP #5, Rm 536, Crystal City, VA. Or send your fax to (703) 602-2117 and my internet ID is [mcaninch\\_william@hq.secnav.navy.mil](mailto:mcaninch_william@hq.secnav.navy.mil). Thanks for your help.

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### TAILORING OF ACQUISITION PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTATION

On 23 August 1994, Mr. Noel Longuemare, the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology) issued a policy memorandum which stressed that the milestone decision authority (MDA) for ACAT II, III and IV programs has full authority to reduce or eliminate any procedures or documents contained in the DoD 5000 series instructions which are not based on statutory requirements. As long as certain core issues, such as the need for a validated requirement, are formally addressed, the MDA may tailor regulatory requirements contained in the DoD 5000 series instructions consistent with a program's status, risk and the adequacy of proposed risk management. The memorandum encourages each ACAT II, III and IV program MDA to tailor programs under their oversight early in the acquisition process and to the maximum extent possible. Tailoring of documentation and reports for ACAT I programs is currently being reviewed by the oversight and review process action team. Until a decision is reached, each service acquisition executive is encouraged to submit tailoring proposals for ACAT I programs.

### RADM SULLIVAN HEADS AR STEERING GROUP

RADM Mike Sullivan, Deputy for Acquisition Policy, Integrity and Accountability, has assumed the chair for the Naval Acquisition Reform Steering Group. This group consists of senior members from throughout the Department, including both requirements and acquisition personnel. The Steering Group serves as a clearing house for acquisition and standards reform initiatives

and supports both the Naval Acquisition Reform Senior Oversight Council chaired by Ms. Nora Slatkin, ASN (RDA), and the Defense Acquisition Reform Senior Steering Group chaired by Ms. Colleen Preston, DUSD (AR). The Steering Group develops Department positions on reform issues such as proposed acquisition reform legislation, electronic commerce in contracting, implementation of standards reform recommendations, etc.

For the name of your organization's representative on the Acquisition Reform Steering Group contact Ms. Marge Koebke, AR Steering Group Executive Assistant at (703) 602-8519, fax: (703) 602-6712.

## **JOINT ADVANCED STRIKE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM USES "PAPERLESS" PROCUREMENT PROCESS**

In January 1994, Major General George Muellner, the Joint Advanced Strike Technology (JAST) Program Director, made the decision to use a paperless procurement process. Specifically, all proposals were to be submitted electronically, the source selection accomplished without the use of paper and all contract deliverable studies would be provided electronically.

As no paperless contracting or proposal evaluation system existed at the time, it was necessary for the JAST program to invent one meeting their requirements. Two factors drove their system development approach. First, it had to be kept simple and second, program schedule requirements limited the time available for its development. While direct electronic submission would have been preferred, the many uncertainties and risks associated with protection of classified and proprietary material, data integrity, and legality of electronic signatures limited this first system to contractor proposals submitted on floppy disks. Legal issues required the submittal of a single, original "paper" copy of each proposal in the event a floppy disk could not be read electronically.

A local area network (LAN) consisting of 12 workstations was established for proposal evaluation. Two of these workstations were located in a conference room for meetings and voting, and could drive an additional six monitors on the LAN. The capabilities of this first JAST system allowed the head of the evaluation team to assess the progress of each evaluation and results of each voting session were immediately available. All evaluation panel materials were available to the source selection

authority to completely document his decisions. The system also facilitated preparation of post evaluation letters and provided data to debrief offerers.

Through the use of their paperless procurement process, the JAST program eliminated approximately 132,000 pieces of paper and 11 months from the standard procurement process timeline of 15 months.

Points of contact are Ms. Kathy Crawford, (703)602-7390, ext. 6664, or CDR Knob Moses, (703)602-7390, ext 6609, of the JAST Program Office.

## **ADS PROGRAM USING COTS & NDI**

The Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) has awarded a contract for acquisition of the next generation Navy display and data handling system, the Advanced Display System (ADS) AN/UYQ-70. This contract represents NAVSEA's first acquisition of a mission critical system using an Open System Architecture (OSA) integrating Commercial-Off-the-Shelf Technology (COTS) and Non-Developmental Items (NDI).

The ADS acquisition uses commercial computer technology and adopts industry electronic standards and architectures as well as "best commercial practices" to Navy display and processing applications. The ADS has a five-to-one cost reduction over systems currently deployed, a cost savings of approximately \$110,000,000 over a two year production period. The ADS is built around an open system architecture, with transparent technology insertion of emergent COTS and NDI products throughout the program's life. The ADS supports programs using the AN/UYA-4 and AN/UYQ-21 families of displays.

The success of the ADS acquisition is due in part to using industry electronic standards and architectures and adapting best commercial practices to Navy display and processing applications. The ADS specification was based upon performance requirements as opposed to specific design requirements. The Navy continually worked with industry to assess the potential of candidate commercial and open system resources for meeting those performance requirements. This coordination with industry enabled NAVSEA to obtain access to the commercial computer base and for industry to provide low-risk, low-cost solutions to meet the Navy's evolving operational needs.

The ADS will provide the fleet with an order of magnitude improvement in tactical capability over currently deployed display systems. The schedule for delivery and test of the ADS is rigorous, with the Navy already taking delivery of component modules to initiate code generation and system integration. Prototype systems were delivered in August 1994.

Points of contact are Ron Goodling, NAVSEA 91W5, (703)602-9078 x201, and John Lussier, NAVSEA 91W51F, (703)602-8204 x226.

## AUTOMATED TOOLS FOR PMs -- PART 2

One automated tool in use on major programs is the Program Manager's Workstation (PMWS). PMWS, with Best Manufacturing Practices Network (BMPNET), has been a leader in the acquisition reform movement for over five years, and is a series of expert systems on how to manage a program, address technical risk management, and find solutions to reduce technical risk and improve quality. It is a constantly evolving system with regular enhancements to improve its effectiveness. This system consists of four components: KNOW-HOW, Technical Risk Identification and Mitigation System (TRIMS), Best Manufacturing Practices (BMP) Database, and BMPNET.

- **KNOW-HOW** is an intelligent, automated program that turns "Handbooks" into expert systems or digitized text. It provides rapid access to information in existing handbooks, SECNAVINST 5000.2A, and the DoD 5000 series documents.
- **TRIMS** is based on DoD 4245.7-M (the transition templates), NAVSO P-6071 and DoD 5000 event oriented acquisition. TRIMS conducts a full range of risk assessments throughout the acquisition process so corrective action can be taken before risks become problems. TRIMS is used in several major Department of the Navy acquisition programs.
- The **BMP Database** draws information from the BMP surveys of industry, government, and the academic communities to include proven best practices in design, test, production, facilities, management, and logistics. Each practice has been observed and verified by a team of experienced government engineers.

- **BMPNET** provides communication between all PMWS users. Features include downloading of all programs, E-mail, file transfer, help "lines", Special Interest Groups and electronic conference rooms. Through BMPNET, IBM or compatible PC's and Macintosh computers can run all PMWS programs.

To access BMPNET, users need a special modem program. This program is obtained by calling BMPNET using a VT-100/200 terminal emulator set to 8,N,1. Dial (703) 538-7697 for 2400 baud modems and (703) 538-7267 for 9600 baud and 14.4 kb. When asked for a user profile, type DOWNPC or DOWNMAC<return>as appropriate. This automatically starts the Download of the special modem program. You can call back using this program and access all BMPNET functions. The General User account is:

USER PROFILE: BMPNET  
USER I.D.: BMP  
Password: BMPNET

If you would like to find out more about PMWS and future system enhancements, call Ernie Renner (BMP Director) of the Office of Naval Research at (703)696-8484/DSN 226-8484 or Brian Willoughby (CSC Program Manager) at (703)538-7799.

## ACQUISITION OMBUDSMAN

Acquisition Reform continues to move at an accelerating rate. The Defense acquisition world is waiting for the President to sign the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994. This bill will require changes in the current ways of doing business and in the paradigms held by the acquisition community. Enter the Acquisition Ombudsman (AO). The AO is available for consultation on the issues of acquisition reform and how they impact you and your program. CDR Dave McDonald is your AO and is available at (703)602-2851.

## SPECS & STANDARDS STRAIGHT-TALK From the DEPSO

The Command Standards Improvement Executives (CSIE) overseeing specs and standards reform within the SYSCOMs, appropriate PEOs, and DPRMs have been identified and are listed below:

NAVAIR Roger Goodson (703) 604-3302

NAVFAC Harry Zimmerman (703) 325-7957  
MARCOR Larry Kreitzer (703) 640-2411  
NAVSEA Al Crout (703) 602-5320  
NAVSUP Lenny Burdick (703) 607-0223  
SPAWAR Dennis Rilling (703) 602-4820

The CSIEs are working with our office in developing a Navy Standards Improvement Program POA&M, and individual POA&Ms for their respective SYSCOM, and appropriate PEOs and DRPMs. The POA&Ms will include the schedules and priorities for accomplishing military document reviews and dispositions, i.e., conversion to performance spec, Commercial Item Description, Non-Government Standard; justifying retention as a military document; cancelling the document. Writing and using Performance Specifications is the subject of training on 17, 18 Nov. Contact your CSIE or CDR Bob Petroka, (703)602-2389, for details.

Reminder: Mil-Specs and Standards voluntarily cited by contractors in their proposals are in compliance with the DoD policy, and do not require a waiver.

Request: PMs who have been to MDA review and have received waivers for use of Mil-Specs and Standards are requested to provide a copy of the approved specs/standards with justification to the applicable CSIE and to CDR Petroka.

## ***Remember ...***

***Acquisition Reform Update*** is intended as a tool for you. We welcome questions, comments, or suggestions on how we can best use this tool to keep you informed.

Contact Mr. Bill McAninch at (703)602-2390, CP5, Room 536 for further information. Or send your fax to (703)602-2117.